



BOILERMAKERS.

Crushing Effect of Machinery on the Trade.

LABOR BECOMES A DRUG.

The Paterson Boilermakers' Strike of 1870 and its Results Described by One of Them—Striking Illustration of the Ignorance in Which "Pure and Simple" Leadership Leaves the Masses—The Machine Comes in to Lurch the Union of its Victory & Forces the Men to Learn from Bitter Experience What Honest and Intelligent Leadership Would Have Taught With Ease and Comfort.

In the summer of 1870 the boilermakers of Paterson, N. J., having asked for an increase of wages and being refused, concluded to go out on strike until their request was granted. The shop owners, after holding a conference, resolved to close their works and wait until the men were forced by hunger to return at the old scale of wages. After some months of idleness, seeing that the men were united, and showed no signs of weakening, a conference was held jointly by the workers and shop owners, and a compromise was effected at 10 per cent. increase of wages. The men returned to their work, and once more the ring of the hammers was heard, and activity took the place of idleness.

Now, what followed "the big strike?" as this strike was called, which is still fresh in the memory of many of the people of Paterson?

The shop owners, realizing what the men could do by a united stand, began to devise ways and means to "own their men," as they termed it. Instead of employing flesh and blood to produce their goods they started in to have the "iron man" do their bidding. The first move was to do away with what is termed "chipping." This consists in cutting the edge of the plates of steel after they are rivetted together. This work had up to this time been done by hand, and many men were employed at fair wages to do it. As it required skilled labor, the men were paid for it at the rate of \$2.50 per day. To do away with them the planing machine was brought forward. As the machine could perform in one day what man could do in weeks, the men were naturally driven to the wall, and had to seek other employment.

Next came the "bull," so-called. It was a machine made in England, and imported to this country by the apostles of high tariff and "home industries," to protect them, not against foreign competitors but against American labor. This machine was made to drive rivets. It sounded the death-knell of boiler-making as far as hand labor and wages were concerned. Up to this time two mechanics were needed, at \$2.50 per day each, besides one man called a "hold-on," at \$1.75, and one boy to heat the rivets, at 50 cents. These were considered a gang. One hundred rivets was a day's work. These rivets cost to drive \$7.35 per hundred. The new riveting machine could drive 4,000 per day, costing 12½ cents per hundred, or \$5 for 4,000 on straight ordinary work. The same amount, done by hand, would cost at the time of which I write \$234. Is it any wonder that they wanted to own the iron man, who requires no clothing and no food; who never went out on strike; who never lost a day to bury a fellow shop mate; who never celebrated the day of American Independence? Is it any wonder that they preferred the "iron man," who was always ready to perform the labor required by simply turning a valve and letting in the steam?

Next came the flanging machine. This is to turn the edge of the plates at right angles with their face so as to enable a joint to be made for holding the sheets together. Some of the work this machine does is on a par with the steam riveter. All ordinary work can be done by this tool, and on some the saving of labor is immense. Take a sheet called the back of shell on a locomotive boiler. This formerly was done by hand, and took five men fifteen hours to complete. The machine can do one every ten minutes, and the labor required to run the machine is not necessarily skilled labor.

The next machine brought in is a little joker. It is simplicity itself. This little fellow is a dwarfed offspring of riveting bull. An ordinary laboring man can, with it do the work of ten mechanics. It is called a cawking machine. It is about 15 inches long, 2 inches in diameter, with a cap on each end. Through one end protrudes a blunt chisel to do the work with; the other end is fastened to a rubber pipe ¾-in. diameter, leading from a tank of compressed air. On the inside of the

little fellow is a complicated mechanism of valves and springs, which can strike about 5,000 blows per minute. One unskilled man handling this machine does the labor formerly done by ten skilled men at the trade.

Next came the four-spindle drill, doing the work of four men, and being a self-feeding machine. The fortunate attendant may clean windows or sweep the floor while overlooking the machine.

Then came the machine for tapping. This was intended to start with by doing away with six or eight more men. This machine has not yet reached the expected perfection, so no one can say what its possibilities are.

Next came the reaming machine, doing the work of four or five men, thus enabling these men to seek other fields.

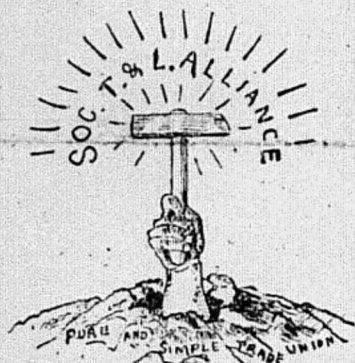
Then came the multiple punch, with sliding table. This machine punches six holes at every revolution. The old punch made only one hole at a time and required five men to handle. On the multiple punch two men can do the trick.

With all these tools in operation in any shop requiring as they do about thirty men to run them, the output can be as large as that which formerly required 500 accomplished men. The introduction of improved tools makes the outlook for the once prosperous boilermakers' trade anything but bright, and boys wishing to become tradesmen should shun the boiler shop.

What is there to do? What happens to us is happening to all the other trades. In sight of this, strikes become laughable; "protection" becomes a delusion; free trade becomes a snare; gold standardism no better than a plaster on a wooden leg; silver coinage a farce; and old style trade unionism downright swindle.

These machines must be owned by the people. To own them we must capture the government. To capture the government we must unite to vote it down upon the platform of the Socialist Labor party. Whoever talks otherwise must be dull indeed, or is a knave.

This, at least, is the opinion of one who has been in the boilermakers' trade for twenty-five years.



PHILADELPHIA SHOEMAKERS.

They Uncompromisingly Repudiate the A. F. of L.

PHILADELPHIA, March 30.—At the meeting of Shoemakers' Union No. 135, of this city, held two days ago, the following was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, We recognize that the absolute dependence of the wealth-producing class upon the useless capitalist class, which is in possession of the means whereby we live, and recognizing that the constant introduction of labor-displacing machinery increases the competition among the workers for a bare subsistence, and that while capitalism is maintained, with its insecurity of employment, our wages—that share of our own product that the capitalist graciously allows us, becomes smaller and smaller when employed, and when unemployed the only choice left us is to go tramping, to join the rapidly increasing criminal class, or to increase the population of that institution which we may truly call our own—the almshouse; and,

WHEREAS, The capitalist class maintain their position by securing control of the government, municipal, State or national, so that they may perpetuate the legalized robbery of the working class, and recognizing that they are aided and abetted by those who dominate the American Federation of Labor, who are either stupid, ignorant or dishonest, and who are constantly misleading the American workingman by their false shibboleths, of middle class free silver issues, or suppression of immigration, humbugs, or other false cries to divide the working class on Election Day, so that they may be more easily plucked; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we request the National Boot and Shoemakers' Union, in convention assembled, to withdraw from the aforesaid American Federation of Labor, and that we renounce its foolish and antiquated method of depending solely upon the strike as the only weapon whereby our emancipation is to be effected; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the National Boot and Shoemakers' Union make application for a charter to the General Executive Board of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, and that in future we be known as the National Alliance of the Boot and Shoe Workers of the United States and Canada.

To Irish Comrades.

All the copies of the pamphlet "The Rights of Ireland and the Faith of a Felon," received from Dublin from the Irish Socialist Republican Party, have been sold out; and there only remain on hand samples of the handsome green duodecimo of the Irish Socialist Republican Party, which can be had at 5 cents each from

Labor News Co.,
64 E. 4th street, New York City.

CARLESS' TOUR.

The Uplifted Arm and Hammer Received with Rousing Applause.

Observations by the Way—Ruthless Cutting Down of Wages at Newburg.—Brickmakers, Bricklayers, Hod-carriers, Iron Riveters, Cigarmakers Driven by the Lash of Famine—Inhumanity to Albany Motormen.

PROY, N. Y., April 3.—My tour of New York State had scarcely begun before the misery of its wage workers struck my eyes.

About thirty miles off Newburg, looking through the car windows, could be seen a host of brickmakers, young and old, wending their way home after the day's toil. They were wearily dragging one foot after the other; to all appearances they were thoroughly exhausted. The necessary food and comfort for the recuperating of their wasted energy could certainly not be had by them for suddenly their "homes" loomed into view. Homes? Prison pens would be a more appropriate name, were it not for the fact that there were too many means of escape—most of the windows being broken and stuffed with paper and rags to protect the inmates somewhat from the wind and cold. Such are the places those who make brick—to build mansions with—are compelled to live in.

In Newburg I found that numerous wage reductions have taken place since the election of the "advance agent of prosperity." For instance, the bricklayers at work on a building in the course of erection on Washington street are being paid \$2.50 a day instead of the union rate of \$3.75. The hod-carriers on the same building are receiving but \$1.25 a day instead of \$2.25. Although there are unions of both bricklayers and hod-carriers in that town, they are afraid to say "Boo!" so numerous are the men who want a job.

Another instance: The employees at the coal chutes of the Pennsylvania Coal Company had their wages reduced to the tune of 10 per cent. immediately after election. Now the company are having improved chutes made, which will displace eight out of every ten of these coal handlers. The men employed riveting the iron, of which the chutes are being made, were told to hurry along or they would be displaced by men who were begging work at \$1 a day. Of course this threat produced the desired effect. The fear of discharge hanging over the head of the modern wage-slave goads him to further exertion just as effectually as the whip of thongs hounded the chattel-slave at his toil.

In a cigar factory at Newburg there are girls working for wages ranging from \$1.25 to \$2.50 a week. A few weeks ago some of them went on strike, but their places were readily filled at the above starvation wages.

Such distress blurs the picturesqueness of that little town on the banks of the Hudson. Nevertheless the workers of Newburg will not be far behind those of other towns in wiping out the blot with the Socialist ballot. This I judge from our last night's meeting there. It was a fine meeting. The comrades were unanimous in the opinion that it was by far the largest meeting ever held in Newburg. The next morning the capitalist press admitted the fact that our party's emblem—the uplifted arm and hammer—was received with hearty applause as soon as it was thrown upon the screen.

In Albany I found the labor movement quiet, except for the agitation of the "wicked Socialists." The "pure and simple" are scared to say, let alone do, anything in the line of resenting the petty insults and tyranny which are daily heaped upon the heads of Albany's wage-workers. An instance: Recently a bill was introduced in the Legislature to compel the Street Railway Company to vestibule its cars. The company appeared before the committee in charge of the bill and said: "Our employees do not want the cars vestibuled; go and ask them if you believe us." Whereupon the bill immediately died of dependentitis motormaniculosis.

Who believes the motorman or conductor of a trolley car prefers to be exposed to the cold, wind, snow and rain? Who believes they desire to contract cold after cold, and eventually fill a consumptive's grave? No one. Then why the bluff of the railroad company? They know that very little experience is needed to handle the motor switch, and that hundreds are ready to jump in. They know their employees are aware of these facts, and that they dare not complain for fear of losing their jobs.

Thus we see science and invention in the hands of the capitalist class used to rob and browbeat the workers into submission at every opportunity. The capitalist economist gloats over this. One Professor Ure remarks that "when capitalist enlists science into her service the refractory hand of labor will always be taught docility." So it is, and will be, until the wage-workers have the machinery of production in their hands. Then capital will be taught docility. Science and invention will then be the handmaids and not the tyrants of labor, with the capitalist as slave-driver.

The meeting in Albany was highly successful; it was the largest indoor meeting held since the visit of Keir Hardie. As to Newburg, the party emblem came in for rousing rounds of applause.

H. CARLESS.

To complete a file.

A reader of THE PEOPLE wishes No. 3 of Volume VI. to complete a file. Will exchange for any other issue of that volume. Send it to THE PEOPLE, 184 William street.

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DETROIT'S CAMPAIGN.

The Socialist Municipal Fight is Unmasking Pingree.

An Enthusiastic Socialist Labor Party Meeting—Comrade M. Meyer, the Socialist Candidate for Mayor, Exposes Pingreeism and its Stool Pigeons—Labor Fakirs Roasted Along With their Capitalist Paymasters.

DETROIT, Mich., March 29.—Comrade M. Meyer, candidate for Mayor on the Socialist Labor ticket, roasted Governor Pingree's reforms to a turn at the ratification meeting held at Arbeiter Hall yesterday afternoon. He accused the Governor of having attempted to buy him up, and said that the stamp of hypocrisy was fast being seen on all of his so-called reforms. He held that Pingree's success had come from the fact that he provided soft snaps for men who could talk and fool the laboring people, and had bought up some of the fake labor leaders. Representatives Birkhoff and Molster were branded as traitors to the cause of labor, and Anarchist Labor Fakir Joseph Labadie, employed in the water office, was also given a scorching. A large number of laboring men listened to his speech, and his points were applauded.

Comrade Meyer began by discussing several of the issues of the campaign, noting the fact that the labor element has not been properly organized, but has always been drawn into the parties of the capitalists. "Free water," he says, "is not a question of labor, but of taxation, though directly speaking there is no such thing as the people having to pay for it anyway. Indirectly there is such a thing as free water, and it would be of benefit to the working classes to a certain extent. It would take out of the hands of the capitalists some of the jobs with which they buy up men whose business it is to bamboozle the people. Joe Labadie, our Anarchist, who was bought up, would lose his job, and then he would not find so much interest in talking the way he does."

"As to Pingree's letter, which he sent me asking for information as to the means of getting the better of the street car companies, my answer will be published in a few days. He has never adopted tactics that have been any different from other people's. His plan has been to get men who could talk and promise them soft snaps if they would work for him. That's what Pingree tried to do with me. I've got the letter and can prove it. He is not the representative of the laboring people, but of the capitalists. If you will only take the trouble you will find that there has been something else behind his potato scheme than the welfare of the poor people. He worked that scheme in order to catch votes, using the dependent condition of the people to accomplish what he wanted. It is time that we understood such reformers and begin to know what they are up to. I can't see anything great in what he has done during the past seven years. He bucked the consolidation of the street car companies, yet the very road he was responsible for consolidated under his nose."

"When he was running for Mayor you never heard Pingree say that he would do his best to reduce the hours of laboring men, or to better their condition. Instead of that he inaugurated the truck system on Belle Isle, where men have to work for \$1.25 a day, and take their pay out in grocery orders. Yet you see some of the so-called labor leaders stumping for him. I tell you that such men as Elkhoff and Molster are your enemies, and you must brand them as traitors to the cause of labor."

"You will notice that Pingree is continually talking about the people, but he never tells you who the people are. It used to be the glorious flag that was talked about by every man who was running for office, but that catch phrase got played out, and another had to be substituted. Instead of the flag Pingree took up the people, but it is only a cheap phrase, and means nothing. We are for the working class."

"In reality there is nothing in the three-cent fare issue he says so much about, as far as the laboring man is concerned. It is the business man who gets the benefit of the three-cent fares, but in the evening, which is the only time the laboring man can go out, he is obliged to pay five cents. Besides, if you live near the three-cent line, your house rent is raised, for capital never allows labor any more than enough to exist upon."

"Pingree, I tell you, is the representative of the business man, yet 70 per cent of the population is made up of laboring people. He is in favor of convicts working farms, but he does not go to the root of the evils and find out what causes so much crime. He does not make any effort to remove the cause. He asks for money for the Salvation Army, so that people can have the opportunity of begging, but he pays no attention to the cause of the poverty."

The speaker also referred to Captain Stewart, and called attention to the fact that he had moved his company to Hamtramck so as to escape paying taxes. Referring to Captain Stewart's statement that capital had some rights, the speaker said that what he meant was to convey the idea not to press the claims of capital too far before election for fear that the laboring element might take offense and kick over the traces. Comrade Meyer also attacked the bill presented in the Legislature for the taxing of bachelors. He said that nowadays a man could not support himself, and had no incentive to marry when his wife was obliged to work in order to

supply the necessities of life. He did not want to be understood as opposing cheap fares, but objected to such a cry when it was only being used to pull the wool over the people's eyes.

Comrade Herzog followed, pictured the workings of the present system, and drew conclusions showing that only through the Socialist Labor party and a class-conscious movement, labor could free itself. He said: "Pingree wants to allow fleecing and robbing, but he doesn't want to have so much robbed at a time; he wants to do it under cover."

NEW TRADE UNIONISM.

Philadelphia Cigarmakers No. 165 Snub Strasserism and Reform.

PHILADELPHIA, April 2.—Last Tuesday, at a well attended meeting of the union important decisions were arrived at.

A circular had been issued calling upon the members to be present to take action on a circular forwarded by the International President dealing with what part of the tariff question relating to the proposed increase in Sumatra wrappers and Havana filler, and also a circular from the Civil Service Reform Association calling upon the members of the union to petition their respective State representatives to support certain bills now before the legislative body at Harrisburg. After a lengthy debate upon both questions the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, A genuine and permanent reform in municipal, State or national government cannot be established under the rule of capitalism which corrupts all legislative bodies and the judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Effective and lasting reforms can only be made by a radical change in the formation of the present society; and

WHEREAS, Such a change may be brought about by an independent political party of the wage workers organized upon strict class lines, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we cannot follow the advice set forth by the International President in his circular on the tariff question, inasmuch as we are opposed to fakir politics and the humiliating policy of petitioning unscrupulous politicians, who do not represent the wage workers in the slightest degree; be it further

RESOLVED, That for the same reason we reject the propositions of the so-called Civil Service Reformers.

Shop reports showed that a number of manufacturers had combined to further diminish the starvation wages paid to the cigarmakers.

A GOOD PICTURE

Of the Sort of Elements that Make up Reform.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 2.—The Socialist Labor party organization of this city holds regular agitation meetings every Sunday forenoon from 10 to 12. A large number of people come to hear the principles of the party explained, but with them there come also all the cranks of the city, who take that opportunity to air themselves. "Colonists," "Co-Brotherhoods," "Tax Reformers," "Sixteen-to-Oneites," "Non-Interest-Bearing-Bonders," "Harveyites," "Ballot-Box-No-Good-Any-Moreites," "Coxeyites," fossilized "Pure and Simple Trade Unionists"—in short all the malformations and mental cripples of the place, representing all the fads and abortions of the age, turn up there and make their little bows, and splutter their little splutterings.

It is fun, indeed, to see them, and best of all is the sight of the little band of Socialists routing this rabble with the arguments of facts and science. Those who act fairly-minded are given another chance; and those who come with unbiassed minds or anxious to learn, enjoy excellent opportunities at these Sunday morning meetings. Never a meeting passes without some new and valuable acquisition is made by the organization in the shape of new and intelligent recruits.

WELL DONE.

Lynn, Mass., Swedish Socialists Chastise Blasphemous Capitalist Ministers.

LYNN, April 6.—The Swedish Socialists, members of the Lynn Democratic Club, indignant on account of the manner in which the Swedish clergymen traduced Socialism by associating it with Anarchy and other movements which are opposed to Socialism, expressed their indignation in two public meetings, to which the ministers in question were invited. The last meeting, held Sunday, from 3 to 6:30 p. m., in Lee Hall, was a special one to give ample time to have the ministers appear and defend their assertions.

Rev. Otho Anderson, Lynn, Rev. Mr. Widgran, Maplewood, and Rev. H. Hanson, of Boston, were the challenged ones. A large and intelligent audience of Swedish citizens, with their wives and children, assembled at the hall. But Rev. Otho Anderson was the only one of the trio who responded to the challenge. After he had heard some of the Socialist speakers he was induced to address the audience near the close of the meeting.

The entire discussion was in Swedish. The Socialist arguments were irrefutable.

Rev. Mr. Anderson apologized for not having studied the science of Socialism. He thought something should be done to ameliorate the awful condition of the poor people throughout the world, and thought that legislation should be enacted preventing any one from acquiring more than \$1,000,000.

The fallacy of this remedy was tersely exposed by M. Neilson, who replied to him, as did also Axel Allis, of the Boston Socialists.

DENVER.

Total Break-up of Old Political Lines.

SOLID SOCIALIST FRONT.

Not Less than Fourteen Municipal Tickets in the Field—Populism Split up Into Three Parts and all Three Disappear in Fusions—The "Rev." Myron W. Reed Develops into a Full-fledged Political Fakir—The Socialist Ticket and Platform—Professors of Aid From Outside Parties Promptly Repelled—Widespread Respect Gained by the S. L. P. on the Ground of its Firmness and Uncompromising Attitude.

COLORADO, April 3.—On the 7th of last month, after holding a short business meeting, we resolved ourselves into a convention to nominate candidates for our city election, with the following result:

Mayor, Charles Flach; City Clerk, William Dye; Treasurer, Adolph Filberg; Auditor, A. G. Masker; City Attorney, N. L. Griest; Engineer, George Bauer; President Board of Supervisors, A. E. Selmer; Supervisors, Harry A. Parkin, Albert Werner, John Martensen, John Kammerer; Alderman, Seventh Ward, Henry Warnecke.

We expect a handsome increase in our votes. The political situation in this city is very highly mixed. There are not less than fourteen tickets in the field. The Pops are split up in three factions, and all fused with some other party, so that there is nothing left of them except fusion and confusion, with the rank and file becoming very rapidly disgusted with the whole outfit.

Our ticket will appear on the official ballot, straight, without any indorsement, although several attempts were made by other parties to allow us to endorse them, but we promptly refused. On account of this, people regard us with respect; they read our literature and comment very favorably upon it.

In the Seventh Ward on our Aldermanic ticket we have a fighting chance. James Hogan, vice-president of the A. R. U., and other speakers, have taken the stump, holding meetings all over the city.

On the 21st of March we held our Paris Commune memorial. William Holmes, of Chicago fame, was the speaker. He went quite extensively into the history of the event; it was new to many of our members, and all appreciated the address very much. Holmes has modified his views considerably; still claiming to be an Anarchist, he will vote the Socialist ticket straight for the first time in fifteen years.

The Rev. Myron W. Reed has turned out to be the worst political fakir a person can think of. We are very glad that we repudiated him a year ago. He went into the Populist convention, made a speech, and declared in one breath that he was a Socialist, a Populist and a silverman—a nice conglomerate. He advocated fusion with the Democrats and succeeded. This broke up the convention into three parts. Thereupon followed fighting and hair-pulling galore. That party is going now to pieces very rapidly. With them out of the way we have plainer sailing. It has to be admitted that they blocked our way very much.

Our party issued and is circulating the following bold manifesto and platform:

Fellow Workers—We are to-day face to face with a new crisis in the history of Denver's municipal affairs, and while the Socialist Labor party aims at nothing less than the complete abolition of the wage system and the establishing of a co-operative commonwealth, certain demands are made, both as first steps and with a view to immediate improvement of the condition of labor.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

For several years past the number of the unemployed has been steadily increasing, and many have died from starvation and exposure, but during the past winter the results of enforced idleness have been much worse than ever before. The daily papers have day after day been filled with horrible accounts of suicides, deaths from starvation or diseases caused by insufficient food and clothing, yet at the same time the ruling class was rioting in luxury. In every city the condition of the working class was bad, but in no place was it worse than in Denver.

PLUTOCRATIC POLICY.

And right here let it be observed that while babies were dying at the mother's breasts and the unemployed clamoring for work, the city authorities, who possessed the power to furnish work to the idle men, and thereby relieve their pressing wants, did absolutely nothing except to give a few men a few days' work and make specious promises; and let it not be forgotten, workingmen and women of Denver, that the failure to do anything to relieve your wants is to be attributed to the influence of the capitalist class which rules, and which put the screws on their tools so that its members (thieves) might not be compelled to disgorge a few of their stolen dollars to keep you (the workers) from starvation; yet these same political tools are again candidates for the offices they have prostituted. Whatever personal merits the other candidates may possess (and in so far as they represent

(Continued on Page 4.)

THE PEOPLE.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....	2,088
In 1890.....	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential).....	21,157
In 1894.....	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential).....	36,564

Let sleek statesmen temporize;
Paisled are their shifts and lies
When they meet your bloodshot eyes,
Grim and Cold;

Polley you set at naught,
In their traps you'll not be caught,
You're too honest to be bought,
Hunger and Cold.
Lowell.

WELCOME TO LAST YEAR'S ROLL OF HONOR.

From Lometa, Tex., a letter has reached this office with the information that one vote was cast in that town for the Socialist Presidential ticket last November. Our correspondent further states that owing to the lateness of the hour when it was decided to set up the ticket, loose ballots had to be printed, and the agitation for the party was hampered. He accompanies the letter with a newspaper clipping verifying his statement, and with a Socialist ballot such as was used in Lorneta. It deserves reproduction. Here it is:

SOCIALIST TICKET.

For President:
CHARLES H. MATCHETT.

For Vice-President:
MATTHEW MAGUIRE.

Presidential Electors, State at Large:
G. H. Royal. A. La Rocca.

The Socialist vote, at this stage of the proceedings, must be weighed. A Socialist vote now is worth thousands, and hundreds of thousands of others. It has a generative force possessed by none other. The one Socialist vote so far recorded in Texas has a significance so deep that we forthwith enroll it on the roll of honor that heads this column, and enter it with the army of stalwarts who, last November, were neither terrified by the gold party of capital nor humbugged by the silver party of the middle class, but marched straight to their goal. Instead of the 36,563, which that column marked before, as the Socialist Presidential vote for 1896, the number is now 36,564. The new arrival deserves the trouble of the change. We receive him gladly, and gladly introduce him to his companions in arms.

Our correspondent speaks of some more votes cast for the party in his county, but the number is not yet ascertained, nor has he yet been able to verify the fact.

To those who look below the surface of things the information herein contained will assuredly be cheerful news. From the balliwick of Cyclone Davis, where the ranter and the schemer seemed to hold exclusive sway, like the coyotes did at one time on those broad prairies, a voice has gone up that materialized into a ballot—possibly the only one cast in the State knowingly, bravely, intelligently. One man who knows and wills has power in him to turn any minority into an overwhelming majority. The conditions under which this one vote was cast justify the belief that it is a fruitful, healthy seed, from which innumerable others will soon crop up.

TELL-TALE WORDS.

Language is like geologic formations; words and expressions are like geologic specimens. As a geologic specimen reveals the age, period and material history of the place from whence it was taken, so do words and expressions reveal the social conditions under which they were formed. Language is not less valuable to the study of sociology than mineral specimens are to the study of geology. There are two quite common expressions in vogue in these days whose study will aid not a little in understanding social evolution and the marked changes we have undergone within the last hundred years.

The first of these expressions is "Labor Market."

Every one knows that with the emancipation of this country from England, the trammels of feudal rule were sundered, the feudal system was overthrown, and the present, or capitalist, system, was established. It is a feature of capitalism that it treats everything

as a commodity, in short, is degraded to the level of the market. Under capitalism labor, or, which comes down to the same thing, the workingman, is a merchandise, just as pork or potatoes; its price, that is its wages, is controlled by the identical economic laws that control the price of potatoes and pork. And yet, while a hundred years ago people talked of the "potato market" and the "pork market," it occurred to no one to talk of the "labor market," the merest suggestion of such a term would have been considered either idiotic or disgraceful. To-day the expression passes current as a well-known technical term, expressive of a generally recognized fact. As a chip from a Laurentian rock can not be found in sand stone, neither could the term "labor market" have been understood a hundred years ago. The fact that it is understood to-day betrays more clearly than any act of Congress could how far our economic-social development has gone.

A hundred years ago, at the very infancy of capitalism in this country, the merchandise quality of the human beings, who had to work for their living, was not yet apparent; it was then believed that man (excepting of course the blacks, who were chattel slaves) and merchandise were wholly different; the sacredness which theoretically covered the human being gave birth to the belief in the possibility of a democratic republic. Since then the development of capitalism ripened the putrid plant into full blossom. The identity of merchandise and an increasingly large majority of the people of the country has sprung into plain view. The term "labor market" more than any other demonstrates that in the economic revolution which the country has undergone, capitalism has destroyed and is incompatible with the democratic republican aspirations of the Fathers.

The second of these tell-tale expressions is "land poor."

A hundred years ago such an expression as "land poor" would have been as unintelligible as to-day would be the expression "millionaire poor." To-day a millionaire can not be poor; a hundred years ago a land holder could not be poor. This has changed, has changed so completely that the changed conditions have given birth to the expression "land poor." A hundred years ago with capitalism at its infancy here, he who had land had all that was needed to live; he could easily, with the then tools, produce and sell. But since then capitalism developed to the point of taking the sceptre from the landholder and placing it in the hands of the capital-holder. Capital now stands, as a social necessity, between the citizen and natural opportunities. He who has land and no capital may be as badly off as he who has neither. He may be poor. The "land poor" is a product of a social evolution that is led by hand of Capital. The term "land poor" has a sneer drawn across its face every time a single taxer opens his mouth.

The study of current expressions is a study of sociology.

PUT THEM OUT, BREWERS!

Almost on the same day and hour, two documents, that wonderfully supplement each other, landed in this office through the mail. They both came from St. Louis, and both are emanations of Mr. Ernest Kurzenknebe, unfortunately for the Brewers, as will appear, the national secretary of their organization. The two documents are eminently fit to illustrate, by contrast, the Socialist principle of the necessity of solidarity among the proletarians, and, by direct evidence, the ditch into which the proletarians will fall under the leadership of adventurers, ignoramuses and scamps.

The first document is signed by Kurzenknebe himself, together with one of his understappers, one Charles F. Bechtold. It is an appeal to the working people to aid the national brewers' organization in a fight against certain brewery firms, and contains the passage:

"We call upon all trade unionists and the sympathizers with labor to give the National Brewery Workmen's Union of the United States all the support and active co-operation that can be given."

The second document is an editorial in the St. Louis "Tageblatt," one of the organs of Mr. Kurzenknebe. Coopers' Union No. 1, of Chicago, having some difficulties with a brewery boss, sought the assistance of the brewery employees, and received an answer from Mr. Kurzenknebe in the shape of an editorial, in which this pregnant passage occurs:

"To-day the coopers are in conflict with the brewer bosses; to-morrow the carpenters have a grievance against a brewery building; presently the compositors will give notice that a certain brewery orders its printing at a non-union office; later it turns out that the factory which furnishes a brewery with an ice machine is a non-union shop; and so on. In this way (were the union brewers to take up all these fights) the unionbrewers would be, to the end of their lives, involved in strikes for other people."

In other words, Mr. Kurzenknebe's policy smashes the solidarity of the workers. He demands all for himself from everyone, but will not aid any.

Thanks to this baneful policy the brewery workers stand to-day more and more isolated from the rest of the workers. It is the policy of the Mil-

waukee Brewer Boss Pabst, whose lackey Kurzenknebe and the other national officers of the union are. In a German Socialist town such as Hamburg, for instance, a man like Kurzenknebe would be speedily speared, like the scab dockers were. There they would soon have "caught the hang" of his "Socialism." Here he has succeeded in deceiving many with his pretensions to Socialism, while all the time he was a lackey of capitalists.

If the rank and file of the brewers wish to reacquire the esteem of their fellow wage slaves, and to take the share they mean to take in the revolutionary movement of the working class in America, they will have to be quick and kick out of their midst the whole Kurzenknebe set of misleaders who, for their own private profit and private malice, are fastening on the brewers' union a policy that can only serve to send it down in utter disgrace and ruin.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

The Rome, Italy, "Avanti," organ of the Italian Socialist Labor party, prints a card from Merlino, thitherto one of the most active and intelligent Italian Anarchists, to this effect:

"Too long have the Anarchists played into the hands of reaction through their efforts to switch the workingman away from the path of political action and the use of the ballot. In sight of the criminal plans of Rudini, it is necessary that all Italian workingmen join in the political battle which is now on, and which will decide the immediate future of Italy."

This card was published on the eve of last month's election in Italy, and with it Merlino declared himself a convert to the Socialist Labor party movement.

Some five years ago Merlino was in this country and started an English Anarchist paper with the backing of Johann Most. The paper promptly wilted and died, and Merlino, judging rightly from the consumptive condition of all other Anarchist papers here, concluded that our soil was not good ground for that plant. We are glad to see that he has evolved clean ahead of Johann Most, Ben Tucker and the rest of that heels-over-head baker's dozen of people who continue to preach Anarchy in America. Civilization is no soil for successful nonsense. We congratulate Merlino.

The "Journal of the Young Men's Benevolent Association" announces that one of its members has turned against Socialism, and explains the fact this wise:

"No wonder that Brother M. Harrison has lately turned against Socialism; for he had discovered that his rival in love is a Socialist."

The "American Federationist," organ of the Gompers labor fakirs, for this month has an article entitled "Organization, High Dues and Success." The title should have been: "High Dues and Organization, Especially High Dues."

The article is nearly four columns long; it can be condensed in the following few lines:

"There was a time when the working people could be caught in shoals. In those days it mattered not how low the dues were. 'Every mickle makes a muckle.' Thousands upon thousands of low dues made a comfortable heap upon which we, the labor fakirs, could live riotously. As, furthermore, we have passed on the railroads we could make in all ways. We would vote ourselves good salaries, and take that money out of the large heap of low dues. Then we would order ourselves to undertake 'organizing tours,' and charge for fares which we did not need, having passes, and in that way we would grab another handful out of the pile of dues. Lastly, in order to silence kickers, we need a corruption fund; out of the heap of low dues we got money enough to corrupt the labor movement with by keeping our outposts in funds; occasionally we overdid this and grabbed too much in our anxiety to corrupt too many, and then we either ran away, or, like Meyer Dampf, the chum of Gompers and Strasser, we lodged a bullet into our heads, and thus took French leave. At any rate, in the glorious days of yore, the gudgeons were so numerous that, even with low wages, the treasuries of our 'pure and simple' so-called unions, were ample for all our purposes, and we could even boast a surplus."

"Unfortunately, alack the day! all that has changed. We have cheated the rank and file so long that they won't flock any more to our standards; and, besides, these pestiferous New Trade Unionists are spreading so much light among the workers that they refuse to be caught in our snares. We have exhausted all our tricks to lure them towards us, but they won't be lured. We are padding our memberships to make our organizations look attractive, but these pestiferous New Trade Unionists expose our fraud, and we get left. We are hungry, and many of us are decidedly thirsty. Thinking that the good old times would last forever, and the rank and file would never learn, we have mortgaged our future; we have invested in pianos, houses and fine furniture for ourselves on the installment plan; the installments are falling due, but there is no money in our treasuries to pay us salaries, let alone to pay for the 'organizing tours' and such other schemes by which we feathered our nests. And, last not least, the kickers are getting to be so numerous that we need an increased force of hired and corrupted members to manage these kickers. There is no money in our treasuries, and there is not enough coming in to do what needs to be done."

There is but one plan left; that is high dues. If 100,000 men pay only 1 cent dues a week, that's low enough, but that makes \$1,000 a week or \$52,000 a year. With 100,000 men we could

stand low dues and prosper in all our private fakir schemes. But now that relatively we have come down to 1,000, low dues become simply impossible. They are unpatriotic! With only 1,000 men, foolish enough, to pay 1 cent dues a week, we, the 'officers,' 'organizers,' 'financiers,' etc., can't get along; that's only \$10 a week, or \$520 a year. Why, it won't begin to pay our usual rum bills and our spees when we 'did the towns' on our 'organizing tours,' let alone pay the installments on our furnishings or the corruptionists' hire! There is only one way to equalize things—HIGH DUES: 1,000 men paying 20 cents a week, that would be \$200 or \$10,400 a year. That's not as much as we fakirs need; but, at any rate, \$10,400 a year is a good deal more than \$520. Besides, we may demand higher and higher dues. If 1,000 men can be made to pay \$1 a week, that is just as good as if 100,000 men paid 1 cent a week. Eureka! Three cheers for HIGH DUES. THE ONLY SALVATION OF THE FAKIRS!

All of which is as clear as day.

Those who followed our two articles on the lapses, that the officers of the International Cigarmakers are trying to manufacture against the rank and file, must surely be curious to know what answer these gentlemen make.

Our readers will remember that we revealed the chain of the conspiracy of these fakirs, link by link. As the old members are acquiring the right to \$550 death benefit, the fakirs—the Strassers, Gomperses, Perkinses, Tracys, etc.—try to freeze the old members out, and in that way are trying to keep the treasury for their own salaries. During the last 6 years 15,000 new members were enrolled and 13,000 dropped. The dues paid by these 13,000 was clean gain. In some unions this gain was equal to \$6 extra assessment. This notwithstanding, the organization is so bankrupt that the fakirs feel they would have no money for their own salaries, etc., unless the old members are dropped. To do that the fakirs first passed a law by which a member was dropped the moment he was 8 weeks in arrears; as the old members can't earn much, this law hit them. To hasten the freezing out process, the dues were raised; thus the old members would find it still harder not to fall in arrears. Finally, to hasten still more the freezing out process, the fakirs have gone about forging deficiencies of nearly \$10,000 against the Philadelphia and Detroit unions; upon the plea of the necessity to cancel the deficiencies the members of these local unions will now be taxed; the old members will thereby find it impossible to pay up and will be dropped, and thus by the lapses-making conspiracy the rascals who have been using this union and its rank and file for their own scoundrelly purposes, may have enough to continue for a while longer to live in luxury, while the average cigarmaker starves. All this we showed. How now do the fakirs meet the indictment?

The "Cigarmakers' Official Journal" for March answers the facts and arguments of THE PEOPLE as follows:

"A certain professor (?) who is generally known as a would-be trade union wrecker, and long since exposed as such, has again broken loose in a tirade against the trades union movement in general, and the International Union in particular. Personally we consider his would-be abuse as a high compliment, and would feel guilty and that we were on the wrong track if he said anything good about us. The professor is a dead one, and might with propriety repeat that old saying that runs something like the following: 'Now that I am so soon done for I wonder what I was begun for.'"

Can there be a more eloquent plea of "guilty"?

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN

If a Capitalist Stump Speaker Were to be Seized with the Vertigo of Truth.

In one of his short sketches—"Dr. Marigold"—Dickens makes a comparison between a traveling pedlar and an English politician, a candidate for member of Parliament. The analogy is almost complete, the only difference lying in the fact of the first being a Cheap Jack, the second is a Dear Jack; or, speaking more plainly, the first making his scanty living by selling household articles; the second cheating at wholesale, selling his honor at that.

This comparison inevitably suggests to the mind our native parasitic growth, so admirably thriving on this fertile soil—the American politician. Between him and his English prototype the analogy is complete, he, too, being ready to cheat right and left, and sell himself to the highest bidder.

Let us imagine our politician on some Saturday night, before the first Tuesday in November, mounting a wagon decorated with emblems of patriotism, and surrounded by a large crowd of lean, emaciated workingmen. Let us imagine him, just as he is preparing to open his speech, suddenly seized with a fit of truthfulness, and powerless to shake off the pressure of this new sensation, compelled to say just what he thinks. Then this would be what he would say:

"Now, my free and independent voters, I am going to give you such a chance as you never had in all your born days, and that's the chance of sending me to Congress. Now, I'll tell you what I'm going to do for you. Here's this glorious country—this land of the free and home of the brave. Here's the interests of this magnificent country, as

represented by your voracious blood-suckers, promoted above all the rest of the civilized and uncivilized earth. Here's your capitalist neighbor's fleecings sanctioned, and your low earnings jockeyed. Here's all your sons and daughters in the workshop and your aged parents in the poorhouse, where you, too, are sure to be in good time, if you are only lucky enough to find a vacancy. Here's a silver mine smiling upon you. Here's the eyes of all the rich idlers on you. Here's universal starvation for you; foul shop air for your lungs, rotten clothes for your backs, broken households, despondency in your hearts and rounds of jeers from your demoralized fellow-creatures—all in one lot, and that you can get through me, your humble servant. Will you take me as I stand? You won't. Well, then, I'll tell you what I'll do with you. Come now! I'll throw in anything you ask for. There! Free silver or not a copper penny; Sunday beer or no beer at all; another couple of schools for your ragged brats or no admission to tenement children; universal plunder, with impunity or death on the electric chair to the hungry wretch who steals a loaf of bread; the rights of men and women respected or the toiling poor disfranchised. Only say which shall it be—take 'em or leave 'em, and I'm of your opinion altogether, as I've never had one of my own, and the lot's your own on your own terms. There! You won't take it yet? Well, then, I'll tell you what I'll do with you. Come! You are such free and independent voters—blind-folded voting cattle. I mean—that you ought to be proud of the privilege of electing me. You are such a noble and enlightened constituency, for you have surely attended school up to your twelfth year, when more important bread winning duties called upon you, that you can easily understand that I am not soliciting your votes just for the honor and dignity of being your member, but that there is something more substantial I am aiming at. Therefore, I'll tell you what I'll do with you. I'll take off the duty on imported liquors, and you will have streams of champagne. Will that content you? It won't. You won't take the lot yet? Well, then, before I leave this stump, and go to offer my services to the other great party of this glorious country, I'll tell you what I'll do. Vote for me and I'll give your various relief committees \$500 to buy bread with for your starving brothers. Not enough? Now, look here! This is the very furthest that I'm going to. I'll make it \$750. And still you won't? There now! I shouldn't like to turn my back upon you for a trifle. There! Take the lot on your own terms and I'm going to do more for you than you think I can. From this very spot I can pull the wires of the all mighty capitalist establishments and procure work to those of you who see the farthest from their noses and shout the loudest. What do you say now? Come, come! You won't do better and you may do worse. You take it? Hurrah! Sold again and got the vote! You'll find out soon who's got the bargain."

New York.

THE SPEAKERS WHO SPOUT IN THE SPRING.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by F. A. HICKEY, Brooklyn.]

Sung by Socialist Nanki-Poo and Republican Ko Ko Platt.

[The Brooklyn speakers herein discussing the advisability of opening the company before the 1st May.]

(Socialist Nanki-Poo Sings.)

The speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la!
Bring promise of a jolly good time;
When we'll shout and we'll yell
And we'll sing

Tra la la!
On a soap box or any old thing,
Tra la la!

In the coming election time.
And that's what I mean
When I say or I sing
Oh! hurrah for the speakers
Who spout in the spring

Tra la la la la la he!
Tra la la la la la he!
The speakers who spout in the spring.

(Ko ko Platt Sings.)

The speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la!
They give me a pain in the spine,
For they yell and they shout and they sing

Tra la la!
And with me they don't do a thing
Tra la la!
In the jolly election time.
And that's what I mean when I say or I sing

Oh! bother those speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la la la la he!
Tra la la la la la he!

Those speakers who spout in the spring.

(Socialist Nanki-Poo.)

The speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la!
Are workers, class-conscious and bold;
They fight for their class night and day
Tra la la!

They are filling your heart with dismay
Tra la la!
They can not be bought with your gold.
So that's why I shout, and I yell, and I sing

Oh! hurrah for the speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la la la la he!
Tra la la la la la he!

The speakers who spout in the spring.

(Ko ko Platt Sings.)

The speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la!
They make me most awfully tired;
The capitalist class they oppose
Tra la la!

Our robbery they do expose,
Tra la la!
They work like men who are inspired.
So that's what I mean when I say that a thing

Is as bad as the speakers who spout in the spring
Tra la la la la la he!
Tra la la la la la he!

The speakers who spout in the spring.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—Do you remember the talk we had last week?

Uncle Sam—I think it was about ex-Governor Waite, of Colorado.

B. J.—Yes; I had been arguing that because his supporters were bought off from him, it was useless to vote.

U. S.—I remember. And I showed you that that was no evidence of the ballot being useless, because the platform on which he stood invited corruption and made his supporters liable to be corrupted.

B. J.—Yes; that was it.

U. S.—And you granted finally that I was right. Are ye going to take it back again?

B. J.—No; that argument is sound. But I have another reason why voting is useless.

U. S.—Let's have it.

B. J.—Does the Socialist platform invite corruption?

U. S.—Guess not.

B. J.—The Socialist voters can't be bought off, can they?

U. S.—Guess not.

B. J.—Consequently they will vote the Socialist ticket, will they?

U. S.—Most assuredly.

B. J.—Now, will you deny that in many places the Socialist vote is simply not counted?

U. S.—I don't deny that.

B. J.—Now, will you be kind enough to explain to me what is the difference, as far as final results are concerned, whether the voters are bought off by the capitalists or whether they are not bought off, but are counted out? In either case the party falls through. For that reason I maintain that voting is useless.

U. S.—You reason now as falsely as you did before.

B. J.—Just prove it.

U. S.—There's counting out and counting out.

B. J.—I don't see it.

U. S.—You will if you listen.

B. J.—I'm all ears.

U. S.—Do you imagine that in any of the places where the Socialist vote was counted out the Socialists cast a vote large enough to carry the election?

B. J.—No; I certainly don't.

U. S.—Now then, these capitalists throw out a good number of our votes, not to keep our men out of that election, but to discourage us. Our men were beaten anyhow.

B. J.—Very well.

U. S.—This "counting out" is, therefore, not a counting out of your candidates, because they were anyhow not elected.

B. J.—True; but one of these days they will be elected, and then the counting out of the votes will be equal to the counting out of your candidates.

U. S.—There is where you err—

B. J.—I don't!

U. S.—Just wait. We know approximately our strength. All parties do. When our votes are now thrown out we care little. They are thrown out simply to discourage us. But we can't be discouraged. We move steadily on and grow. Every election brings us nearer to victory. We know it, even though we are not credited with our full vote. And we put up with it because we know that anyhow we were not yet elected.

B. J.—But how can you tell when you are elected?

U. S.—We can tell by the pulse of the movement. Now to the point. What the criminal capitalist class will dare to do with the votes of a movement like ours when the movement is yet weak, that criminal class will not dare to do when the movement is strong, especially when it has triumphed at the polls.

B. J.—But if it does dare?

U. S.—There is no instance in history where a successful movement has submitted to being defrauded. One thing is to perpetrate petty fraud, like counting out a few ballots where the fraud would anyhow not affect the results; another thing is to perpetrate huge election frauds where the frauds would affect the result.

B. J.—There's something in that.

U. S.—A good deal. God help the capitalists if they dare throw out our votes when by doing so they will upset the fiat of the ballot. Criminal though that class is, it has the daring of the sneak thief only. It will recall before such an act; and if it don't, it will be dealt with accordingly. The ballot is all right in the Socialists' hands and shot from the Socialist platform. Counting out will not do there when counting out would amount to anything. All the counting out to-day only fires us to increased activity. That day is at hand when no counting out will be dared. The vote of the Socialist movement is not a populist or similar rope of sand affair.

With the assistance of the sensation and capitalist press, a little union of about 11 members, which the S. T. & L. A. expelled for conduct unbecoming to class-conscious proletarians, has immediately swelled to the stately dimensions of 4,000 members, and changed its status from an expellee into a bolter.

The metamorphosis has pleased so well the bankrupt labor fakir Harry White, of the defunct Garment Workers, whose officers sold the label to sweater bosses, that he goes about trying to induce the labor reporters to romance some more.

Only if White and his fellows, Schoenfeld, Baroness and Reichers, can pay for the Bass' ale they would like to drink again as formerly, upon newspaper wind, and only if Gompers and such other chums of White can get \$550 for junketing expeditions from such dues as will be paid by imaginary thousands coming back to them—only then could newspaper fake reports fill their fakirs' stomachs.

A Workingman's View - OF THE - LABOR PROBLEM.

By HERBERT LITTLEWOOD.

(Issued by the National Executive Council, N. U. of T. W. of A.)

It can be safely stated, without much fear of contradiction, that there never was a time in the history of the United States when the spirit of discontent was more universally and emphatically expressed by the masses than it is at the present time. There never was a time when the wealth producing, wage-receiving class had greater cause to be dissatisfied with their conditions than now. It is an undeniable fact that this glorious country of ours is the richest country in the world in natural wealth; according to statistics it is capable of supplying the wants of 100,000,000 more people than are living on the earth at the present time. In the face of the glaring fact that old mother nature has provided for us so freely and lavishly from her bounteous storehouse, we have millions of honest American citizens starving in the midst of plenty, for the common necessities of life. Can it be said that the reason the American wage workers are in such a deplorable condition is because they are an idle, lazy and thriftless people? No. They have labored long and hard. They have cleared, tilled and cultivated the land, and produced an abundance of food for all. They have built millions of homes, factories, workshops, storehouses, railroads, canals, ships, etc. They have gone into the bowels of the earth and brought forth an abundant supply of fuel and ores with which they have manufactured the finest of labor-saving machinery. They have filled our storehouses to overflowing with food and clothing, and all other necessities. And after producing all this food they are hungry, after having manufactured an abundant supply of shoes and clothing, they are barefooted and half clad, after building so many homes they are on tramp and homeless, after inventing labor-saving machinery they are thrown out of employment, to beg, steal or starve.

Is it any wonder that the spirit of discontent has become universal? Is it any wonder that the cry of revolution grows louder and louder every day? Is it any wonder that the minds of the hard headed, thinking and intelligent American workingmen to-day are: What is going to become of them and those dependent upon them, if their wages and the opportunity to find steady and remunerative employment continue to decrease at the rapid pace at which they have been doing the last few years.

Every day that passes by finds more unemployed men competing against each other for the opportunity to earn an honest living. They find themselves forced by necessity and starvation to work for whatever wage the capitalist may feel disposed to give them, and that they are powerless to dictate any terms that they (the working people) may think are reasonable.

They find that through the improvement in machinery able-bodied men who are willing to work are forced into the ranks of the unemployed, that women are fast taking the place of men, and that children are taking the place of women. They find that women are forced through circumstances and conditions over which they have no control to perform the triple duty of breadwinner, housekeeper and motherhood, that children who ought to be at school and in the playgrounds developing their mental, moral and physical faculties are compelled through the same causes to grind out in any branch of industry where their labor power can be utilized to grind out of their young bones and muscles larger profits for their merciless and inhuman employers.

And as a result we now count our unemployed able-bodied men by the millions, who are scouring the country in the vain search of employment. They find the same conditions prevailing all over the country and in every branch of industry.

By the aid of the improved machine one man can produce as much as five men could a few years ago, and to-day in some branches of business it is possible for a child to produce things that only a short time ago required the intelligence, strength and experience of a tradesman.

The Northrop loom serves us with an illustration to substantiate the above-mentioned facts.

It is a machine that is destined to revolutionize the textile industry, and is in practical operation in a number of our largest and best equipped mills. This great invention makes it possible for one person to successfully operate 20 of these looms, where formerly one person could only operate 6 to 8. The Queen City Cotton Company, of Burlington, Vt., have girls successfully operating 20 of these looms, producing as much cloth as three weavers could formerly. The weavers on these new machines are being paid 9 cents per piece, while the present Fall River price for the same goods is 18 cents.

Mr. George Otis Draper, of Hopedale, Mass., manufacturer of the Northrop loom, said in a speech at the semi-annual meeting of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association, held in Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 24th and 25th, 1895, "That the need of labor-saving machinery was never so marked as at present. Cotton manufacturers in this country have been reasonably protected by tariffs in the past, but they never before had to meet the competition at present threatening. The successful operations of the new mills in Japan, India and China point to an alarming cheapening in future cloth production. The only way in which we can meet labor costs of 8 to 12 cents per day is by the use of machines in which the labor cost is a minor feature."

This argument may seem plausible from a manufacturer's or profit monger's standpoint, but what is to become of the thousands of wage workers who shall be thrown out of employment, and who will buy the product of the machine if the people are not employed or do not have a share in the product of the machine? Mr. Draper does not

touch on this side of the question, but I shall deal with it later on. In the woolen and worsted industry, through the improvement of machinery and the amount of extra work demanded from the operative, one weaver is now producing fifty yards of cloth per day where three years ago he could only produce twenty yards per day of the same class of goods; he then received 8 cents per yard for his labor, to-day he receives 23 cents per yard. In addition to this, nearly one-third of the weavers have been thrown out of work, increasing the already congested labor market. It can readily be comprehended from the above-mentioned facts, that our capacity for production has increased at a rapid pace the last few years, while at the same time, through the wage and profit system, our purchasing power has been reduced in the same proportion, and heartrending panics of long duration are the inevitable result.

It would be absurd on our part to try to put a stop to these labor saving inventions as a remedy for the ills by which we are at present afflicted.

It is time we turned our attention to the problem of how these machines can be made to serve the interests of the masses, in furnishing them with the necessities and comforts of life, instead of allowing a few drones and parasites to use them for the purpose of fleecing the industrious by the infamous methods of profits, interest and dividends. It is time we turned our attention from the problem of how to produce cloth 50 per cent. cheaper, to the greater problem of how to transfer the cloth we have produced to the bare backs that are greatly in need of it.

If we turn our attention to other industries the same conditions confront us. An investigation of the productive capacity of the shoe factories in Massachusetts reveals the stupendous fact that by the aid of a number of newly invented machines they are able to turn out on an average one pair of shoes every 35 minutes for every man, woman and child employed, or, to put it plainer, 100 persons working 9 hours per day are able to turn out over 1,500 pairs of shoes for one day's work, and yet thousands are compelled to go shoeless because they cannot get work to make shoes, and note the result—factories either stopped or are running short time because they cannot sell their shoes, thus further reducing the purchasing power of the masses.

Again, the introduction of electricity on our steam railroads to take the place of the steam engine, compel the engineer to accept the position of motor-man for less wages than he formerly received, while the fireman finds himself counted among the army of unemployed. Again, the Typographical Union finds itself face to face with a typesetting machine which is fast being adopted by all the large printing establishments of this and other countries; one person can set as much type with this machine as four persons could formerly. What is going to become of the other three-fourths of the compositors who served years of apprenticeship to learn the trade?

In the cigar industry a machine is now being successfully operated in Binghamton, N. Y., which is going to revolutionize that industry and make it possible for 3 children to produce as many cigars as 14 men could produce before its introduction. Thus we might go on enumerating the vast number of labor saving machines which have been invented, and which are now being successfully operated. Observing and intelligent workingmen have been noting the effect these labor saving machines have had on their condition.

They see the army of unemployed increasing at a very rapid rate; millions of honest workingmen only a few steps from death by starvation, their very lives depending on their ability to get work. They see that it is within the power of a few men, who own and control the machinery of production, to say you shall work, or you shall not work; you shall eat or you shall starve. You shall live or you shall die.

The outcome of all this is that the labor market has become glutted, competition has grown keener and keener, until at the present time men are tumbling over each other in the struggle to get employment at any price; in the event the men fail, their wives go and try their luck; if they are unsuccessful, then the children, and in thousands of cases all their efforts are fruitless.

Is it any wonder that the workingmen, being confronted with such facts, should be asking themselves the question, What is going to become of them, their wives and children, if something is not done very soon?

That question will have to be answered and acted upon intelligently by the workingmen themselves before anything satisfactory can be accomplished.

You answer by saying we have been trying to answer that question for a number of years; we have been acting. We have organized and joined our trade unions, we have paid our dues regularly, we have built up big treasuries, we have taken the advice of Powderly, Sovereign, McBride and Gompers, we have paid them large salaries and looked up to them as advisers and leaders, and champions of labor. We have organized strikes and boycotts in the hope of wresting from our employers that which rightfully belonged to us; as was instanced at Homestead, Chicago, Brooklyn, Milwaukee and other places; in almost every case we have met a crushing defeat.

We found our enemies entrenched behind the legislative, military and judiciary powers; we found thousands who were starving only too willing to take our jobs. When we protested against these scabs we were shot down just like so much game; we were sent to jail without a trial; refused work and black-listed so that we could not get work anywhere else, and we are just begin-

ning to realize what fools we have been; we are just opening our eyes to see the fact that the employing class owns and controls all the means of production and distribution; that we own nothing except our labor power, and not always being able to sell that, we find that we are in a worse position than the chattel slave, and that while we have been divided and fighting each other on tariff and free trade, nationalities and religion, prohibition and populism, we have been voting this money power into office, believing, as they told us, that they would legislate for our best interests. But we have found out to our sorrow that while they have been giving us taffy and sops they have taken good care to fortify themselves in an almost impregnable position; that while we have been growing poorer and weaker they have been growing richer and more powerful.

In speaking of this money power, E. V. Debs says: "This power, the outgrowth of aggregated and centralized wealth extorted from the producing masses by processes no less reprehensible than those employed by Captain Kidd, Jesse James and 'Bill' Dalton, on an incomparably small scale, makes Congresses and Legislatures, dictates national and State legislation, appoints Federal and State Judges, nominates and elects the President of the United States, and compels all its spineless vassals to do its bidding. This power grows more and more arrogant and despotic as it plunders, crushes and enslaves the people, while it builds its fortifications of the bones of its victims and its palaces out of its piracies."

While our condition is a most deplorable one, while it is true that it has been a case of the blind leading the blind in the past, let us not become discouraged; a faint heart never won a fair maiden, nor a coward a victory; let us meet new conditions as they arise, with all the modern implements of warfare. Let us stop fighting Gatling guns with the old bows and arrows of Pure and Simpledom; let us arm ourselves with the two mighty weapons, New Trades Unionism, and the all-powerful political arm which has made our enemies victorious; we outnumber them 5 to 1, and if we equip ourselves with the same sinews of warfare, victory is surely ours.

Let our destination be nothing short of the Socialist Co-operative Commonwealth.

The Socialist or New Trades Unionist recognizes the fact that old Trades-unionism, pure and simple, with its strikes and boycotts, is no longer an effective weapon, as experience has proven. That it can never overthrow capitalism from the position it now holds, that the private ownership of the means of production and distribution, and the whole capitalist system must be destroyed root and branch.

We can never hope to emancipate ourselves or our class so long as we keep voting for and electing the enemies of labor, who believe in perpetuating the present wage system by which they are enabled to fleece labor out of the wealth which it alone creates.

It is not a question of high tariff or free trade, a gold standard or a silver standard. These things will not improve our conditions in the least, as can readily be proven to an unprejudiced mind. We have tried high tariff, and low tariff, the gold standard is at present in operation, and yet we find our condition growing worse every year. If we examine the conditions of the working class in countries where they have high tariffs, or free trade, a gold standard or a silver standard, we find they are practically the same.

Workingmen, do not believe in these false issues; join your trades union, educate yourselves, acquire an accurate knowledge of the development of machinery, and the effect it has on the labor market. Organize your unions on a class-conscious basis, for the purpose of capturing the political, legislative and judiciary powers by your class, and thus place yourselves in a position to put an end to the present barbarous struggle, by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land, and all of the means of production and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war, and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefits of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

Should Labor's rights be all forgot?

Men worked to death for gold?

Should sweaters flourish in our land

And ne'er the truth be told?

Should some in gorgeous mansions dwell,

In idle wealth and ease?

And others starve in filthy slums

In Christian days like these?

Should men be forced to beg for work

And often beg in vain,

While drones a fortune spend a week

In horses, girls, champagne?

Should robbers thrive while good men starve?

Rogues live while true men die?

No; 'tis been too long, and now

We'll know the reason why?

Is there not land enough for all?

And produce of the soil?

Yes; let the fiat now go forth.

"None eat that will not toil."

Shall they who cheat us of our rights

In rampant riches ride?

No, no! at last we claim our own

And will not be denied.

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at \$1.25 per 1,000 or \$1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,
64 East 4th Street, New York.

For an Italian Paper.

All comrades and sympathizers who realize the importance of upholding a Socialist paper in the Italian language in this country are requested to send contributions and subscriptions to Comrade C. F. Garzone, 14 Varick place, New York City. Send at least a nickel. "Il Proletario" needs assistance. To discontinue its valuable work would be a serious setback to the movement among the Italian wage earners.

OPEN LETTERS

To the United States "Patriots"—No. 7.
To the Workingman.

Dear Mr. Workingman—If you are thoroughly contented with your present condition, and believe that things generally are just about as they should be, and that it only requires honesty and perseverance on your part in order to become a millionaire, you are just the kind of patriot that the old party politicians and capitalists are looking for. They want you to shout hurrah when they tell a joke, vote for them at election time, and be a soldier when they want you to save your country for them.

But, on the other hand, if you are not satisfied with your present uncertain conditions of employment and the low rate of wages which you receive when employed, it is your duty, as a true patriot, to find out the causes of your unsatisfactory condition and to do all you can to remove them.

To set you thinking in the right direction is the earnest and only object of this letter. Read it carefully, remember the principles it contains, and you will soon extricate yourself from the confusing will-o'-the-wisp reforms that have been so long held up to you by self-interested politicians, preachers and capitalists.

The economic conditions of all civilized countries at the present time are exactly the same.

A change in the kind of political party in power from Republican to Democratic; or even a change in the form of government from a monarchy to a republic makes no difference to the workers of the country unless the economic conditions are changed with it.

When the people of this country liberated themselves from the monarchy rule of England they still retained the economic methods which had been established here by the English. The consequence is that the toiling masses of this country are to-day no better off than the toiling masses in England.

Under present economic conditions the people of the world are divided into two classes: Those who own property, such as land, mines and machinery of production and distribution; and those who are by unjust laws disinherited of their birthright, and have to depend entirely on the sale of their labor for existence.

With the rapid introduction of labor-saving machinery, and the concentration of production and distribution into the hands of trusts and corporations, the demand for labor is diminishing, the rate of wages declining, and millions being forced into idleness and starvation.

In the desperate struggle that is going on between these two classes of society all kinds of reforms and palliatives, such as poor laws, church charities, friendly societies, "pure and simple" labor unions, Salvation armies and municipal potato patches have been tried for the relief of the suffering poor, and have failed to bring about any relief.

The reason of this failure is because a reform only modifies outward appearances, and does not change the internal character of the economic structure.

By the law of evolution this class struggle must grow intenser, until, by ever increasing exploitation, the masses of producers are driven to desperation. Then, and not till then, they will remedy their own condition by a genuine revolution. This revolution, whether it comes through the ballot or otherwise, will change the whole economic conditions of society, and consequently, also change the morals and manners of the people by removing the primary cause of injustice, corruption and fraud. This primary cause, the foundation on which our whole economic structure is built, is the private ownership of the material and machinery for producing and distributing the necessities and comforts of life. Private ownership was originally founded on the slaughter or enslavement of the weak by the strong; and it is still continued and supported on the compulsory wage slavery of the masses. Any institution that is built on the oppression of one class for the benefit of another can only serve to foster class-consciousness, hatred, which must of necessity terminate in revolutionary action. Hence the revolution which is near at hand is not coming as the design of the struggling classes, but as the inevitable consequence of existing economic conditions.

Remember, a "revolution" means a decided advance in evolution.

No earthly power can stop evolution, and this change must take place whether it be attended by human slaughter or not.

The last shackles of human wage, or any other kind of slavery, shall be broken like a rotten thread; and man shall rise triumphant above the animalism of to-day to an era of physical and intellectual development, and a complete mastery of the knowledge of natural forces.

In this country there is one way, and only one, to bring about this revolution in a peaceful and desirable manner, and that is by the wage workers themselves through the ballot.

The Socialist Labor party has set out to accomplish this end in this manner, and will succeed.

Whatever your color, religion, occupation or previous political ideas, if you really desire to help raise yourselves to a higher level of civilization and abolish the injustice and misery that human beings now suffer of, you will lay aside all prejudice and carefully study the principles and objects of Socialism, and will back up your conclusions by joining the party and casting your vote with it.

There's never been a nation where the wealth producers ruled; Nor, in history, an instance when they have not been fooled

By kingcraft or priestcraft, land sharks, shysters and politics, And still they bow submissively to all such cunning tricks.

They've never known the truthful cause of all their discontent, But gladly, to tomfool reforms, their willing aid they've lent;

And fought on bloody battle fields, and cut each other down To put their enemies in power and keep themselves trod down.

A revolution, nothing less, can raise the wage slaves up, And give to them their right by birth to drink from freedom's cup;

But this can only be attained when they their rights shall learn, And make the law to give all men exactly what they earn.

When each and every workingman by Socialism's light Shall learn that economic laws can make all wrong things right:

The wage slave's shackles then they'll fling upon their mother earth, And freedom for all men alike will have its full free birth.

—PHILIP JACKSON.
Rochester, N. Y.

FLEECER EASTWOOD.

A Silkweaver Tackles a Board of Trade Guest and Unmasks him.

If the weavers of Paterson still required a political object lesson from the parties in power the late speech of Mr. Eastwood at the Board of Trade has certainly met the demand. Workingmen are sometimes like little children. In order to "clinch" a certain fact in their minds it must, of necessity, be accompanied by a picture. In this instance Mr. Eastwood has produced a glowing one. Here it is.

First—He bewailed the exodus of the silk industry to Pennsylvania, hinting that if the strikers do not stop, and if capital does not get more police protection, Pennsylvania would soon become the centre of the silk industry, in the place of Paterson.

Second—He insulted the intelligence of the working people of Paterson by claiming, in taffied rhetoric, that they were tired of the fifty-five hour law, and would be among the first to seek its repeal.

Third—He touchingly referred to the condition of the poor capitalists under these circumstances by comparing it to standing upon a powder mine, which might be touched off at any minute. Mr. Eastwood, taken out of his usual rut as the fleecer of labor, and promoted to office on the Board of Trade, was therefore out of his element, and as soon as he opened his mouth his brains metaphorically fell out. Impressed with a ludicrous sense of his own importance, his brow commenced to bulge, he commenced to think vast thoughts, and hence his foolish and pompous effusion at the meeting of the Board of Trade.

It was foolish, inasmuch as it might tend to open the eyes of the working voters of Paterson immediately preceding an election. It recalls very forcibly to mind the Scriptural story of Dives and Lazarus. Lazarus might be compared to the poor and indigent striker, and Dives to the fleecer of labor. Mr. Eastwood, Lazarus went to work in the "Phoenix Mill," fashion was favorable, and he prepared, in conjunction with many others, to lie under the table of Dives, at which Mr. Eastwood was figuratively an invited guest. Poor indigent Lazarus heard certain dark rumors in the air (called protection), and being probably too much crowded under the table, ventured to stick his nose over the top of it to also get some of the "protection pap," only to get his nose promptly rapped by Mr. Eastwood, the invited guest at the meeting of the Board of Trade.

See the point, silk worker? Eh? Moral—This rap in the nose ought to open your eyes in order to avoid the sound drubbing that will follow. It is only a faint agony of the drubbing.

Concerning Eastwood's reference to the exodus to Pennsylvania, innate selfishness probably has much to do with this. He evidently don't like to leave home, fears competition in machine building may spring up there, where he may not be able to meet it successfully and control it.

Mr. Eastwood, if Pennsylvania does become the centre of manufacture, there is nothing easier than that the agitator should get to the centre of that centre and exert a centrifugal force. Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's or give to labor the full proceeds of its toll, or you will find no peace on earth, even if you went to the antipodes.

Second—Mr. Eastwood, if the silk worker does not stop working overtime, and thereby directly and deliberately reduces his wages and curtails the demand for his labor, and to crown all, plays into your hand by asking for the repeal of the fifty-five hour law, it will then be time for a sanitary commission to examine into his mental condition. But then, of course, it will be "love's labor lost."

Third—Mr. Eastwood, concerning your parable of standing on a powder magazine, I would say, take out the powder (oppression), replace it by content (justice). Study the principles as far as possible of the golden rule.

Wherever there is oppression there will be resistance. Were it not for justified discontent (the divine spark of liberty) man would be destined to compare unfavorably with the animals. Indeed, eminent writers have ere this said that "discontent is the only distinguishing quality between man and the lower orders of creation."

Mr. Eastwood, do not grow or try to be in an exalted state of mind; come back to earth, never open your mouth publicly again, and then you'll avoid putting your foot in it. Get right back into the groove you've been accustomed to: A fleecer of labor, i. e., a knight of the golden fleece; that is the only thing you are fit for. You'll never shine in any other role, and when the day comes, as it ultimately must come, of the triumph of the Socialist Labor party at the ballot, then we shall see if you can provide something better for you to do. WINTHROP.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

L. D. U. Worcester, Mass.—The questions are interesting; will be taken up in due time.

J. R. Peppin, Chicago, Ill.—The pledges for THE DAILY PEOPLE Fund that you speak of have not been received here.

A. K. Washington, D. C.—Very good. Too late for this number. Will be in next.

Frank Campbell, Jersey City.—You will find the amount credited in the issue of last March 21.

AGGRESSIVE WORK.

The Oakland, Cal., Socialists are Fighting a Winning Battle.

OAKLAND, Cal., March 31.—It may be of interest to the readers of THE PEOPLE to learn a little of the progress of the party in California. In the beautiful city of Oakland (across the bay from San Francisco), which is by some called the Athens of the Pacific, and by the irreverent "the lodging-house of San Francisco," we have a flourishing Section of the S. L. P. For beautiful as Oakland is, with its miles of streets lined with shade trees, its pleasant parks interspersed here and there in the busy quarters of the town, its charming residences, whose gardens come to the edge of the sidewalk, making perpetual parks of the thoroughfares; and the whole sitting upon the edge of that wondrous bay, and cradled by green hills which look ever across that bay to the great rolling Pacific Ocean beyond, this City Beautiful is still a hell, made so by the blasting effects of the reign of capitalism.

Our Section had not been in existence much more than a year when the Presidential election came on. We buckled to and placed almost a full ticket in the field, and we were amply pleased with the results of our first venture, for in three Assembly Districts out of five we polled enough votes to give us legal standing as a political organization.

At the municipal election held this spring we again placed a ticket in the field, and this time we went "one better" for, whereas at the general election the city of Oakland cast for us a total vote of 250, at the municipal election 848 votes were cast for a single candidate, and the total vote swelled to the very respectable figure of 3,344. The vote exceeded our most expectations, the most sanguine Comrade not having dared to place the figure for the leading candidate at more than 500. With the valuable assistance sure to be given us by the next two years of Republican misrule, I think that should the Comrades persist in their strenuous efforts at the next municipal election we are sure to elect somebody.

We have also had another fight upon our hands. Oakland is the peculiar stamping ground of the "bloated bondholder" of the Pacific Coast, and contains more churches to the square inch than any other town of its size in the United States; this being the case, there are strong objections to those "wicked Socialists" holding meetings upon the streets. A bylaw having been passed prohibiting such meetings, Section Oakland, believing it to be unconstitutional, resolved to test it, and sent a Comrade to speak on a certain corner. He was arrested, and demanded a jury trial. At the trial, to use the language of a local paper: "The prosecuting attorney did his best to secure a conviction, but such was the effect made upon the jury by London's address that he was unable to do so." The jury disagreed, eleven being for acquittal and one for conviction; they were therefore discharged and the trial set for another date. Upon our Comrade again appearing for trial the case was dismissed.

Being determined to procure a decision one way or the other, we sent Comrade Hamilton to break the bylaw once more. He was arrested, as in the previous case, and granted a jury trial, but oh, you should have seen that jury, every bald-headed black Republican in town was on the panel, and, moreover, they were there with the manifest intention of upholding the law of "our country." The defendant exhausted all his challenges, but it was a case of "out of the fat into the fire," a change from one Republican to another of the same brand. After a splendid defense he was found guilty, and on appealing against the decision was denied a hearing by both Superior and Supreme courts. So here we are, denied the right of free speech, and those very courts which were established to uphold freedom are now trying to smother it. However, we are not dismayed, but intend to carry out our work with renewed vigor, and make this very opposition a means of propaganda, and a step in the ladder of success.

H. J. WHITAKER,
Sec. Oakland Sec., S. L. P.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Pretty How-d'ye-do.

To THE PEOPLE—Here is a nice how-d'ye-do. The fakirs of the Central Labor Union and Knights of Labor are fighting against each other for two railroad trusts to get them privileges of certain streets where there are no railroad tracks as yet. The K. of L. are trying to get the grants for the Third Avenue Traction Company; the C. L. U. to get grants for the Metropolitan Traction Company.

What interest have the members of labor organization in getting franchises granted to these trusts? They do not employ union labor. Is it that that the few deluded remaining members of the K. of L. pay their dues for, to have their leaders get franchises granted to their enemies and oppressors? I am sure neither of these trusts have any love for the working class.

It would be a good idea for the members of those labor unions to find out why such a state of affairs exists. Here are two railroad trusts fighting to get these franchises. The K. of L. fights tooth and nail for one corporation; the C. L. U. for the other. In other words, one labor union against the other. The fakir claims all this fighting is for the benefit of the members. These fakirs must take the rank and file for fools. It won't be long before these fakirs find out that they made a mistake, if they have not done so now. The ground is fast slipping away from the pure and simple unions; the fakir is helping it along. It will not be long when the members of these fakir unions will join a genuine and bona fide union, that will work for their emancipation, and that can't be used by the leaders to feather their own nests. Such an up-to-date labor union is the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance. AUG. RUBACH, Brooklyn, N. Y., April 5.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

National Executive.

Regular meeting held March 30, Comrade Furman in the chair; absent, Matchett, excused.

Minutes previous meeting read and approved.

Financial report for week ending March 27: Receipts, \$97.35; expenses, \$52.38; balance for week, \$44.97.

Proposition for referendum vote in the matter of Arbeiter Zeitung Publishing Association approved and ordered submitted to the Sections.

Charter granted new Section at Lowell, Mass.; new Section, No. 2, Woodhaven, Long Island, N. Y.; new Section, No. 2, at New Haven, Conn.; and new Section at Little Ferry, N. J.

Andrew McRoden, Marietta, Wash., and Harry R. Engel, Birmingham, Ala., admitted as members-at-large.

CHAS. R. COPP, Rec. Sec.

Call for a General Vote.

184 William Street, New York, March 30, 1897.

To the Sections of the S. L. P. Comrades—The National Executive Committee beg to submit the following proposition to the referendum vote of the Sections throughout the country.

We are of opinion that the party press in all languages should be under direct party control, in order that a systematic agitation may be carried on in every possible direction. Such control is especially important now that the party's political activity makes the press a most important and indispensable weapon, which should not be exposed to the risk of being alienated from the party or of falling into the hands of those who may oppose our platform or tactics.

The "Abend-Blatt" and "Arbeiter-Zeitung," published in New York city, are agencies of great importance in conducting our agitation among the ranks of Jewish-speaking workmen. There is a wide-spread demand among the Jewish Comrades that these organs should belong to the party, and the National Executive Committee has received a proposition from the Arbeiter-Zeitung Publishing Association, which conducts the publication of said organs, that the party should assume the control thereof.

The last National Convention of the S. L. P., owing to dissensions existing among Jewish Comrades in connection with these organs, passed a resolution forbidding any Section to have any connection with the Jewish press. This action was taken in the belief that if the Jewish Comrades were left severely alone they would soon settle their differences among themselves.

Experience has shown, however, that notwithstanding the action of the convention, these dissensions still exist, and are a serious impediment to our agitation among the Jewish masses.

We believe that if the direct control and supervision of the Jewish press is vested in the party, acting through its National Executive Committee, all the pretenses for disturbances would be entirely removed.

For these reasons it is of great advantage to the party, and especially to Section New York and its agitation, that the party assume control of our Jewish press, the direct ownership, however, to be continued for legal reasons on the incorporated body.

We therefore submit to a referendum vote the following proposition:

The property and management of the "Abend-Blatt" and "Arbeiter-Zeitung" shall be vested in the Arbeiter-Zeitung Publishing Association, under the direct control of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor party. The books of said publishing association shall be examined, once every three months, by an expert accountant, to be appointed by said committee.

The "Abend-Blatt" and "Arbeiter-Zeitung" shall be made the Jewish official organs of the S. L. P.

The editors shall be elected jointly by the National Executive Committee and the Publishing Association; or, in case they cannot agree, by a general vote of the members of the party, the same as the editors of "The People" and "Vorwärts." Any editor who may prove incompetent or violate the platform or constitution of the party shall be forthwith suspended by the National Executive Committee.

The National Executive Committee shall act as a Board of Grievances, and hear and determine complaints respecting the business or editorial management of said organs.

The result of the vote of the Sections should be sent to HENRY KUHN, Secretary, 184 William Street, New York City, not later than May 20, 1897.

By order of the National Executive Committee, HENRY KUHN, Sec.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30.—At a regular meeting of the Central Committee of Section San Francisco, Socialist Labor party, held this evening, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, One James S. Reynolds, an advocate of the single tax, published in the "Examiner" of March 19 a communication concerning the passage of Assembly bill No. 285, entitled "A bill for an act to give employment to the unemployed and for the punishment of vagrants," in which Mr. Reynolds made many maliciously false and misleading statements, calculated to prejudice uninformed people as to the aims and objects of the Socialists, charging that the bill was a political measure, fathered and advocated by Socialist politicians, and

WHEREAS, As a matter of fact Mr. Reynolds must have well known that the Socialist organizations were absolutely without representation in the Legislature, and that the Socialists had no more sympathy with the bill and no more to do with its passage than had Mr. Reynolds himself; now therefore, in order that the general public may not be deceived by Mr. Reynolds into believing that the Socialist Labor party in any way favored or was responsible for said legislation, be it

RESOLVED, By the Central Committee of Section San Francisco, S. L. P., that we denounce the misrepresentations indulged in by Mr. Reynolds as cowardly and contemptible, and deserving the condemnation of all right-

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to April 7th, 1897.

\$4,220.

The following amounts have been paid down to April 6th incl.:

Previously acknowledged: Geo. Luck, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$2; C. P. City, \$1; R. Bersch, City, \$5; P. Flebiger, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$5; H. Wherry, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$1; J. Mahlon Barnes, Philadelphia, Pa., \$5; Fr. Campbell, Jersey City, N. J., \$2; Dan De Leon, City, \$2; L. Lewitzky, City, \$1.50; Geo. Bauer, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$2; C. Steffens, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$2; J. McLeod, City, \$2; Paul Dinger, Cleveland, Ohio, \$5; Geo. Anderson, Philadelphia, Pa., \$10; G. Chandler, Taunton, Mass., \$1.

Total, \$4,220.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.

184 William St., N. Y.

minded citizens who believe in honesty and fair play, and be it further

RESOLVED, That we heartily condemn not only Assembly bill No. 285, but all similar palliative measures designed to bolster up a decaying industrial system, and invite the public to impartially judge of our real aims and objects as set forth at length in the National platform of the Socialist Labor party.

By order of the Central Committee, a copy of these resolutions is sent to the daily press of San Francisco and to the official organs of the S. L. P.

J. A. ROULSTON, Secy.

Illinois.

CHICAGO, April 2.—When the readers of THE PEOPLE read this report one of the most desperate municipal campaigns I have ever witnessed will be over. This was a campaign from the start to the finish solely on "reform" lines. Every candidate promised the voters to do all in his power to better the condition by "reform of some kind." Out of the nine candidates for Mayor, only one, the Socialist candidate, preached no "reform," but the Social revolution. May the outcome of the election be what it may, we, the Socialists, do not care much about it for the simple reason that it won't make a particle of difference whether Harrison or Sears is elected. One thing is sure, we will increase some. Our party is having a healthy growth, and that is the main thing. We shall certainly break through these mud walls of "reform" and false pretences.

A new branch has been added to the Section. Comrade Fidler, of New York, organized a Polish branch in the Sixth Ward.

A speakers' club has also been established; all Comrades should attend its meetings. It meets every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock at 79 Dearborn street, Room 328-330. The Comrades will also take notice of our library. It belongs to the Fifth Ward Branch. Books, literature, etc., can be had at any time at Comrade O. Tychem's shoe store, 3014 Westworth avenue. Every Comrade ought to take out a book for himself or his friends. It only costs a few cents a week. Some books can even be had for one cent.

District Alliance No. 11, of the S. T. & L. A., decided by a unanimous vote to hold a demonstration on the first of May. Ulich's Hall, 27 North Clark street, has been secured for a festival and ball for that day. As all Comrades know, the first of May is an international holiday for the workmen. The pure and simple unions never could be had to participate in said demonstration; in fact they denounced it. But New Trade Unionism has gained a foothold in Chicago, and its first public appearance and celebration will be the First of May demonstration, and thus prove the fact that it is linked with the international labor movement. The fakirs will awake to the disagreeable fact that the S. T. & L. A. is a power here. Every Comrade ought to be on deck. Speeches will be made in all languages. There will also be songs, declamations and recitations.

Section Chicago at its last meeting decided to participate in the demonstration, and instructed all branches not to hold any meetings on the first of May, but bring their members out to a man, together with all sympathizers. Section Chicago will meet on the 13th of April in 48 West Randolph street. All delegates ought to be present.

PETER DAMM.

Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 4.—On March 14 the S. L. P. Section here held a successful Comrade celebration, at which Comrade Lorr held an inspiring introductory address.

At the last business meeting of the Section the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, A document was received from St. Louis relating to the dissolution of the National Executive Committee, of the old St. Louis Section, whose members have now organized themselves into an "independent" Section;

WHEREAS, This document proceeds from this "independent" Section, and was sent here for the probable purpose of inducing us also to become "independent"; and

WHEREAS, This Section carefully considered the document from all sides of the question; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the National Executive Committee could not have acted in the premises otherwise than it did;

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be printed in the party press.

Massachusetts.

NEW ALBANY, March 30.—At the last meeting of our American Section No. 1 a document was received signed by the expelled members of the old St. Louis Section, and the same was considered. It was resolved that our Section uphold the action of the National Executive and of the local organizer of Section St. Louis, Lewis C. Fry.

To the Sections of the Socialist Labor Party in Massachusetts:

Dear Comrades—The State Convention is called to meet in Lawrence Sun-

day, May 16, 1897. Each Section of 50 members or less is entitled to one delegate, and one additional delegate for every 50 additional members or fraction thereof.

A tax of 15 cents per capita is levied on each Section to pay traveling expenses of delegates. This money will not be used for any other purpose.

Fares of delegates will be paid, if possible, to and from the convention, once each way and no more.

The matter of employing some one in continuous work for the party will come before the convention, as decided by general vote. Yours fraternally,

S. E. PUTNEY, Secretary.

Boston, April 5.

New York.

NEWBURGH, April 2.—We have really held a successful meeting in this slow, sleepy old place on the 31st of last month. We had a full house to hear Comrade Carless' stereoscopic lecture. As one of our local papers put it, he had his audience with him judging by the applause. It was the first really successful indoor meeting we have ever had. We are getting hold of the young native element. They were out in force that night at our meeting. Two subscriptions for THE PEOPLE were received.

SAM. W. FELTER.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Fourth Assembly District, S. L. P., held its regular meeting Friday, April 2.

The financial secretary submitted his quarterly report, which shows 112 members in good standing and 29 in arrears, while 14 were suspended, being in arrears over six months.

A motion was passed to send out letters to a number of social clubs in this district offering them speakers for a certain evening on political or scientific subjects.

Comrade Levin will give a talk on some important subject Friday. All are welcome.

SECRETARY.

NEW YORK CITY.—Sixteenth Assembly District, Comrade M. London will lecture on the "Aims of Socialism" under the auspices of Socialist Educational Club, 106-108 Avenue C, corner of 7th street, on Friday, April 16th, at 8 p. m. This lecture will be free to all.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Central Committee of Section New York, S. L. P., at its last meeting, held on Thursday, March 25, elected a committee of five to make preparations for a monster parade and demonstration to take place on Saturday, May 1, at Union Square. The committee met on last Saturday, April 3, with E. Neppel in the chair. Comrade L. Abelson was elected as secretary. It was decided to immediately issue a call to all progressive organizations and invite them to elect two delegates to conferences which will take place every Saturday evening at Labor Lyceum, No. 64 E. 4th street, beginning Saturday, April 10th, at 8 p. m.

NEW YORK CITY.—Lectures on Socialism will be held next Sunday, April 11, at 8 p. m., as follows: At Hudson Building, corner of 37th street and 8th avenue, C. H. Furman, of Brooklyn, will lecture on "Conventional Lies vs. Socialism." At Stuyvesant Hall, 351 E. 17th street, near 1st avenue, where J. Allman will lecture on "The Ancient Art of Lying," and at Webster Hall, corner of 140th street and 3d avenue, where T. Hickey will lecture on "Municipal Ownership." Lectures will also be delivered in the afternoon at 2:30 p. m., at Workingmen's Educational Club, 206 East 88th street, near 3d avenue, where L. A. Malkiel will lecture on "Trusts," and at Socialist Literary Society, 161 Monroe street, where H. Wessling will lecture on "Will Restriction of Emigration Benefit the Workingmen?" These lectures are free to all.

Ohio.

DAYTON, April 2.—The party has entered the municipal campaign and has issued a platform, of which the following is the preamble:

The Socialist Labor party herewith presents to you its municipal platform, and at the coming city election solicits the support of those who favor the course of action which it sets forth.

The political platform of the Socialists has been promulgated over a quarter of a century, and the correctness of its fundamental principles, its clearness and practicability are becoming more apparent every day. Socialist principles are finding acceptance among the masses in proportion as capitalism and industrial progress are developed.

All experience shows the folly of expecting good results from aimless oscillations from one party to another—from the Republican party to the Democratic and back—for no matter how high the personal character of the candidates may be, no relief to the present hard conditions of labor is to be hoped for either party, and the Socialist Labor party of Dayton hereafter proposes to raise aloft the banner of a strict class-conscious labor movement, founded upon the clearly defined interests of the working masses, whose ultimate objective point is the abolition of the capitalist mode of production and the substitution of the system of social co-operative industry.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Delegate M. Sontheimer, of the German Waiters' Union No. 1, was chairman of last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.), and delegate C. Hassler, of the Silver Workers' Protective Association, was vice-chairman.

The Arbitration Committee reported having visited several parks and succeeding in unionizing them, all agreeing to employ only members of those unions represented in the C. L. F.

The same committee visited the different butcher bosses employing members of the Bohemian Butchers' Union No. 1, and arranging settlements of grievances. The committee was instructed to attend the Butchers' Union meeting on Tuesday evening.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 1, reported voting against a joint meeting of D. A.'s 1, 2 and 49, as proposed by the latter D. A.

German Waiters' Union No. 1 reported that its treasurer, G. Herzberg, defaulted in the amount of \$728.82. The finances of the union, nevertheless, are in good condition. A general meeting will be held on Friday, April 9, at 385 Bowers.

Furriers' Union will hold its quarterly general meeting this Saturday at 385 Bowers.

Waiters' Alliance Liberty voted against a joint meeting of D. A.'s 1, 2 and 49. A general meeting will be held this Thursday at 282 E. Houston street.

Empire City Lodge Machinists reported having discussed the instructions to be given its delegate to the S. T. & L. A. convention. A letter was received from Montreal, Canada, containing the information that a machinist alliance would soon be organized. The agitation of this lodge has successfully cleared many heads, and hence the complaints against the "pure and simple" management of the Int. Machinist Union are on the increase. If circumstances warrant an agitation meeting will be arranged at the end of the present month. In four weeks another Machinist Alliance will be organized.

Delegate L. Sanial announced that the strike of the railroad employees in Switzerland had been successful in one week under the management of the Socialists. The railroad companies were forced to give in increase of 25 per cent. more wages dating from January, 1896, which went to show what workmen could accomplish when imbued with the spirit of Socialism.

Prog. Clothing Cutters & Trimmers.

At the last session of the above union held on Thursday, April 1, one candidate for membership was initiated; this being an old and former member of the fakirs' union, in fact one of the leaders in a western city of the U. G. W. of A., is a great gain for us, and will be of valuable service to our union.

The report of D. A. 49 was received, as was also the report of the Central Clothing Council, with the following action: One member was elected to attend the conference of the tailoring industry to devise plans of holding a convention of this industry at the same time as the National Convention will be held; a speaker was appointed to attend the mass meeting of the United Brotherhood of Tailors this Saturday, and the delegates were further instructed to see that a vote is immediately taken on certain important matters.

The Anniversary Committee was instructed to bring in at the next meeting a formulated plan for the organization to vote upon.

A long and very interesting discussion followed, in which almost every member took part, about organizing certain houses which were favorably disposed toward our union; it was decided to leave this matter in the hands of the Executive Board.

The Central Council of the Clothing Industry was next brought up for discussion; in it was shown the necessity of us strengthening this council so that all the tailoring organizations in the near future be combined under the banner of the S. T. & L. A.

Other internal business occupied the rest of the evening, after which adjournment followed.

THE SECRETARY.

Ernest Bohm Exonerated.

At Monday's meeting of the Workingmen's Sick and Death Benefit Association, the committee having investigated the brewers' charges, reported the same not sustained and exonerated Bohm. The report was adopted 173 ayes and 50 nays. Thus the Kurzenknebe brigade is once more nailed as common libelers.

A Card for Work.

A Paterson Comrade, who is a tailor, J. Steenstra, 25 North York street, Paterson, N. J., desires to find employment. He is skilled at his trade, can make anything, and is a cutter of the system of Henry Clemm, Dresden. He is badly in need of work, and will be thankful to anyone who will aid him to it. He prefers a place where he can learn English, which he already manages fairly well.

The second meeting of Pioneer Alliance, South Brooklyn, will be held on Saturday evening, at Turn Hall, 16th street and Fifth avenue, at 8 p. m.

Patrick Murphy and other speakers will attend.

Comrade Harry Carless' Tour in the State.

April	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Gloversville.	Johnstown.	Frankfort.	Utica.	Rome.	Oneida.	Syracuse.	East Syracuse.	Auburn.	Rochester.	Lockport.	Buffalo.	Tonawanda.	Hornellville.	Elmira.	Binghamton.	Oneonta.				

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

PAINTERS.

The Progressive Painters, Operative Painters and New York Painters officially assembled at Maermerhor Hall, 203-7 East 56th street, on April 5, 1897, supplemented by a goodly number of the German Painters, who had individually notified the Amalgamation Committee of their intention to join. All seating capacity of hall and gallery, as well as standing room, was occupied.

John Corley, as secretary, opened the meeting, introducing David Callanan as chairman, and after renominating and electing both, the house chose D. Callanan as chairman and J. Corley as secretary for this and the following meeting, until on April 19 the regularly elected members to fill all offices and standing committees to take their respective places.

The house decided that from this day henceforth we will be known by the name of Amalgamated Painters and Decorators of New York. The former names were dropped by unanimous vote.

The regular business of the evening was to nominate candidates to fill the offices for the next three months; it was decided that no member could be nominated for more than one office. Nominations came in some times like a tidal wave, to the great annoyance of the chairman and a good many others; declinations came just as frequent, and some nominees withdrew their names to run for another office. The candidates are: For President, David Callanan; for Vice-President, James Culver, Alex. Sunder, Mat. Moody; for Recording Secretary, John Olin, William Thompson, W. P. Western, Ferd. Kunkle; for Financial Secretary, J. L. Peters, Edw. O. Collenburg, John Halloran, Alex. Gentle; for Assistant Financial Secretary, Theo. Albrecht, Robert H. McKenney, John Corley, Charles Heber; for Treasurer, John G. Bettinger, John Jamour, Rich. Waldron, Matthew Barnes, Pet. Dolan, Ch. Van Zandt, Fred. Tomcor, P. Maloney; for Sergeant-at-Arms, W. Munroe, John Davis, Mich. Seaman, John McKenna, Thun. Dillon, James Lint, Chas. Brown, Fr. Burrows, William Finerman, James Martin, Chas. B. Wether, Mich. Lismore, D. Neal; for three Trustees, Wm. Ferris, John J. Corly, Chas. Luman, Th. Bradford, Geo. J. Smith, Th. Grady, John Davidson, Owen O'Connor, H. Wallstrom, Thos. Shehan, Jos. McCord, J. Dunstetter, Chris. Volumen, Jas. Simpson, Mat. Barnes, Otto Shellman; for four Business Delegates, Ed. Hanrahan, J. Thompson, John Shipman, R. P. Davis, Geo. Coleman, John Boylan, John H. Smith, W. F. Barley, How. Balkam, Aug. Seiler, William Jones, William Hallenbeck, E. Breen, F. Coffee, Thomas Mully, J. C. Smyth, Edw. Wheeler, George Morgan, J. McAndrews, W. L. Barry, Mich. Kehoe; for an Executive Council of Seven, John Holloway, John Corley, Thomas Bradford, James Donly, Jos. Green, David Callanan, Vic. Buhr, Ben. Green, Chas. Knowles, Her. Wallstrom, William Finerman, C. E. Collenburg, Jos. Doyle, Dan. Cleary, W. Bentaler, Jas. Hill, Rob. Lowe, Th. Grady, Stafford Craig, W. L. Heck, W. Percival, J. Howe, D. Sullivan.

Errors of omissions or corrections in the above list will be rectified by the official ballot.

The house decided to use the so-called blanket ballot, and to have them numbered to prevent errors and facilitate business.

A committee of five was chosen to attend to the printing and distributing of the ballots on election night, which will be held on next Monday, April 12, in the hall. Adjourned.

C. E. COLLEBURG.

DENVER.

(Continued from Page 1.)

the ruling class they possess none) their policy must be the same, as they represent capitalist interests. Therefore it logically follows that the working class must, in order to protect its economic interests, elect individuals who represent the principles of working class emancipation, i. e. Socialism.

MUNICIPALIZATION.

The maladministration of affairs in this city during the past has become notorious, the corruption intolerable, and the official despotism unbearable. That this condition of affairs is the outcome of the antagonism existing between the economic and political systems is an undeniable fact. Therefore, with a view to the abolition of the existing antagonism, we present the following demands:

First—The municipality to obtain possession, by confiscation, of the local railroads, water works, electric plants, and all industries requiring municipal franchises. The employees to operate the same co-operatively, under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, such work to be operated at cost, and no employee to be discharged for political reasons.

Second—The employment of the unemployed by the municipal authorities, the same to be engaged in productive work.

Third—The abolition of the contract system on all public works.

Fourth—The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance according to the referendum principle.

Fifth—All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

Sixth—Repeal of all local pauper, tramp and sumptuary laws.

Seventh—A rigid enforcement of the "Compulsory Education" law, meals and clothing to be furnished where necessary.

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Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum. Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their place of meeting.

Branch 1 (American) S. L. P. Dismissal meeting every first Friday. Business meeting every 2nd Friday at 64 East 4th St. Meetings every Sunday 8 P. M. at 84 West 18th St., and Hudson Building, 37th St. 231

Carl Sahn Club (Musicians Union) Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., 44 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Frei. 230

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meetings at 2:30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th St., New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 232

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau, 64 East 4th street, District I (Baltimore), New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 233

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary: HENRY ZENT. 234

German Waiters' Union of New York. Office: 385 Bowers, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m. at the same hall. 235

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1000. D. A. 49. S. T. & L. A. Headquarters 73 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 8 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fr. Wolf, corr. Sec'y. Residence, 173 E. 4th St. 236

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 10 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 237

Scandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 231-233 East St., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scandinavian Weekly, SCAND. ARBEITAREN. 238

Socialist Science Club. Meets at Webster Hall, 40 West 3rd street, every 1st and 3rd Friday at 8 P. M. Also Free Lecture, every Sunday night, 7:30 P. M., preceded by entertainment at same hall. 239

Upshotters' Union of New York and Vicinity. Meets 2d and 4th Tuesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th St. Secretary, Carl Anders, 22 East 3rd street. 240

WORKMEN'S